

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	M.S. GDANSK and S.S. WIECZOREK	DATE DISTR.	1 April 1954	
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1. The M.S. GDANSK, one of the sister ships of the M.S. NOWA HUTA, which with two other ships of the same class, GDYNIA and SZCZECIN, should have been ceded to the USSR, will remain in Poland and, in the near future, will be put into service for the PLO (Polish Ocean Lines) 25X1
2. This ship has been hurriedly finished at the Paris Commune Shipyard in Gdynia. Similar to the other ships of this class already in service, NOWA HUTA and KOPERNIK (the latter was formerly called LODZ), the GDANSK will be equipped with refrigerated holds, and holds with electric ventilation, which will allow transport of perishable goods in the tropics.
3. The decision to keep the M.S. GDANSK for Poland was taken as a result of the following circumstances: At the beginning of the construction of the new industrial center of Nowa Huta, Poland signed an agreement with the USSR, which stipulated that in exchange for heavy equipment to be supplied by the USSR for Nowa Huta, Poland guaranteed to deliver a certain number of ships to the USSR before the end of 1953. The delays in the construction program of the Szczecin Shipyard made it necessary for the Poles to cede two ships of the Nowa Huta type (GDYNIA and SZCZECIN) to the USSR, although at the beginning, they (the Poles) had counted on carrying out this order without having to cede the sister ships of the M.S. NOWA HUTA to the USSR. It is only because the Szczecin Shipyard completed a KOLNO type ship in the prescribed time (December 1953), that the Poles at the last moment were permitted to keep the M.S. GDANSK.
4. On 31 December 1953, Gdansk Shipyard handed over the recently completed SOLDEK type coal-and-ore carrier WIECZOREK to the PZM (Polska Zegluga Morska - Polish Steamship Company).

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